



AF IFW

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3677
PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Confirmation No. 7931

Hiromichi MIZUNO et al.

Art Unit: 3677

Application No.: 10/529,558

Examiner: Jeffrey Andrew Sharp

Filed: June 17, 2005

Attorney Dkt. No.: 59511.00003

For: TAPPING SCREW

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 12, 2007

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

Amendments to the claims are submitted beginning on page 2.

Remarks are submitted beginning on page 6.